

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 01940 191114Z

65-61

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MC-02 ACDA-05 IO-10 /089 W

----- 118599

R 190710Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 627

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 1940

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, ET, SA

SUBJECT: US RESPONSE TO ETHIOPIAN AMMUNITION REQUEST

REF: A. STATE 58886

B. STATE 58897

C. STATE 58955

D. ADDIS ABABA 3092

1. WE TOOK UP QUESTION OF AMMUNITION RESUPPLY WITH DIRECTOR WESTERN AFFAIRS AMBASSADOR NURI IBRAHIM MARCH 17 (DIRECTOR ASIAN AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS ABSENT IN RIYADH). AFTER INQUIRING WHETHER AMOUNT INVOLVED WAS INDEED ONLY SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS AND NOT SEVENTY MILLION DOLLARS AMB. IBRAHIM SAID HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD REASONS FOR LIMITED FAVORABLE U.S. RESPONSE AND SAID HE PLEASED USG COUPLING ITS RESPONSE WITH ENCOURAGEMENT TO DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS. (HE PARTICULARLY NOTED WORD "DIRECT" IN PRESS GUIDANCE).

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2. AMB. IBRAHIM IMPLIED THAT IT WOULD BE EASY TO PASS TEXT

OF PRESS GUIDANCE TO LIBERATION FRONT REPRESENTATIVES AND SAID HE SAW NO POLITICAL OBSTACLE BUT THAT HE COULD NOT AMAKE THE FINAL DECISION THAT IT BE DONE. IF IT WERE, HE SAID THAT SAG WOULD EMPHASIZE MINIMAL NATURE OF THE USG RESUPPLY AND STRONG U.S. ENCOURAGEMENT TO DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS.

3. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR NURI IBRAHIM IS PARTICULARLY SAVVY AND OBVIOUSLY APPRECIATES DIFFICULT DECISION USG FACED IN AMMUNITION RESUPPLY TO ETHIOPIA. OTHERS IN SAG MAY LACK HIS SOPHISTICATION BUT FACT THAT U.S. HAS BEEN ALMOST SOLE SUPPLIER OF ARMS TO ETHIOPIA OVER PAST TWENTY YEARS WILL BE TELLING POINT SINCE SAG HAS ITSELF COME TO RELY QUITE HEAVILY ON U.S. AS SOURCE OF MUNITIONS.
AKINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMMUNITION, MILITARY SALES, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JIDDA01940
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750096-0585
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750337/aaaabhd.f.tel
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Reference: 75 STATE 58886
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Review Comment: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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